

REMARKS

1. Drawings. Replacement sheets are enclosed for Sheets 1 of 4 (Figure 1) and 2 of 4 (Figure 5). Figures 1 and 5 have been amended in accordance with comments from the Official Draftsperson regarding uniform lines. Figure 5 has also been amended to include element numbers 152, 154, 156 and 158 that are stated in the specification at page 10, lines 12-15.

2. Claims 1-21 stand rejected under 35 USC 4103(a) as being unpatentable over Burkett (6,476,828 B1) in view of Betawar (6,415,193 B1). Claims 7 and 12 through 17 have been canceled and claims 22 through 27 have been added in order to claim the invention in the form of a computer program product. Claim 28 has been added to claim for the system form of the invention the aspect of calling existing attribute data from the data store, as in original method claim 4. Independent claims 1, 8 and 18 have been amended to more clearly distinguish the invention, which provides for the ease of creation and modification of parameters in computing systems. Page 2, lines 14 and 15. Applicant contends that the amended claims overcome the rejection.

Support for the amendment to the independent claims is included in the original specification, so that no new matter is added. Specifically, information ("meta data") about parameters is in a certain file. Page 7, lines 29 and 30, and FIG's 2 and 3. The information is presented in a graphical user interface having a navigator panel and an edit panel. Page 7, line 21 through page 8, line 2; FIG's 2 and 3. The navigator panel permits the user to view and select among the parameters graphically, and the edit panel displays attributes for a selected one of the parameters, so that the user can add to or edit the attributes. Page 7, line 29 through page 8, line 2. The language of claims 22 through 27 is similar to that of claims 1 through 6, so support for these new claims is clearly provided in the original application, and no new matter is added.

Burkett concerns dynamically building a graphical user interfaces by matching a display layout and data groups. [In contrast, the present invention concerns using a graphical user interface for a parameter maintenance application in order to graphically represent information that describes parameters and to enable the user to select a parameter and modify an existing attribute or populate a vacant attribute of the selected parameter as a screen-based edit function.] Page 11, lines 11-21; FIG's 2 and 3. Such a modification is then stored in a data store by the use of a URI included in the XML file. This provides advantages over the prior art. Page 12, lines 1 through 13 ("The invention has advantages over the prior art by eliminating the need to create or modify

application code with the introduction or modification of parameter types. Instead, an XML file can be edited and reloaded while the relevant system application is still running, and the maintenance GUI dynamically re-generated to accommodate modifications and allow new parameter values to be entered. Dynamic calls are made by the maintenance application to create the required database tables or binary files, instead of requiring a skilled resource (e.g. computer programmer or system operator) to do this manually.")

The cited teachings do not include a Graphical User Interface having the navigator panel and edit panel structure, as set out in the amended, independent claims. Moreover, they do not teach the same function as claimed. [Burkett does not provide a function regarding populating or modifying data for attributes of parameters, as in the present claimed invention, but rather concerns creating a graphical user interface more or less automatically based on the layout of the interface and the structure of the parameters.] Neither of the cited references teach displaying information about parameters of a file in a graphical way, according to which a navigator panel shows a structure for the parameters, and then showing one of the parameters and its attribute sub-fields in an edit panel responsive to a user selecting the parameter, so that the user may edit the sub-fields and store the new data.

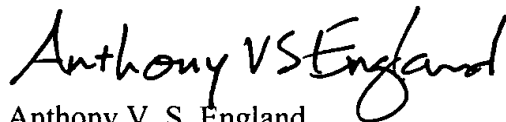
PRIOR ART OF RECORD

Applicant has reviewed the prior art of record cited by but not relied upon by Examiner, and assert that the invention is patentably distinct.

REQUESTED ACTION

Applicant contends that the invention as claimed in accordance with amendments submitted herein is patentably distinct, and hereby request that Examiner grant allowance and prompt passage of the application to issuance.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosed: replacement drawing
sheets 1 and 4

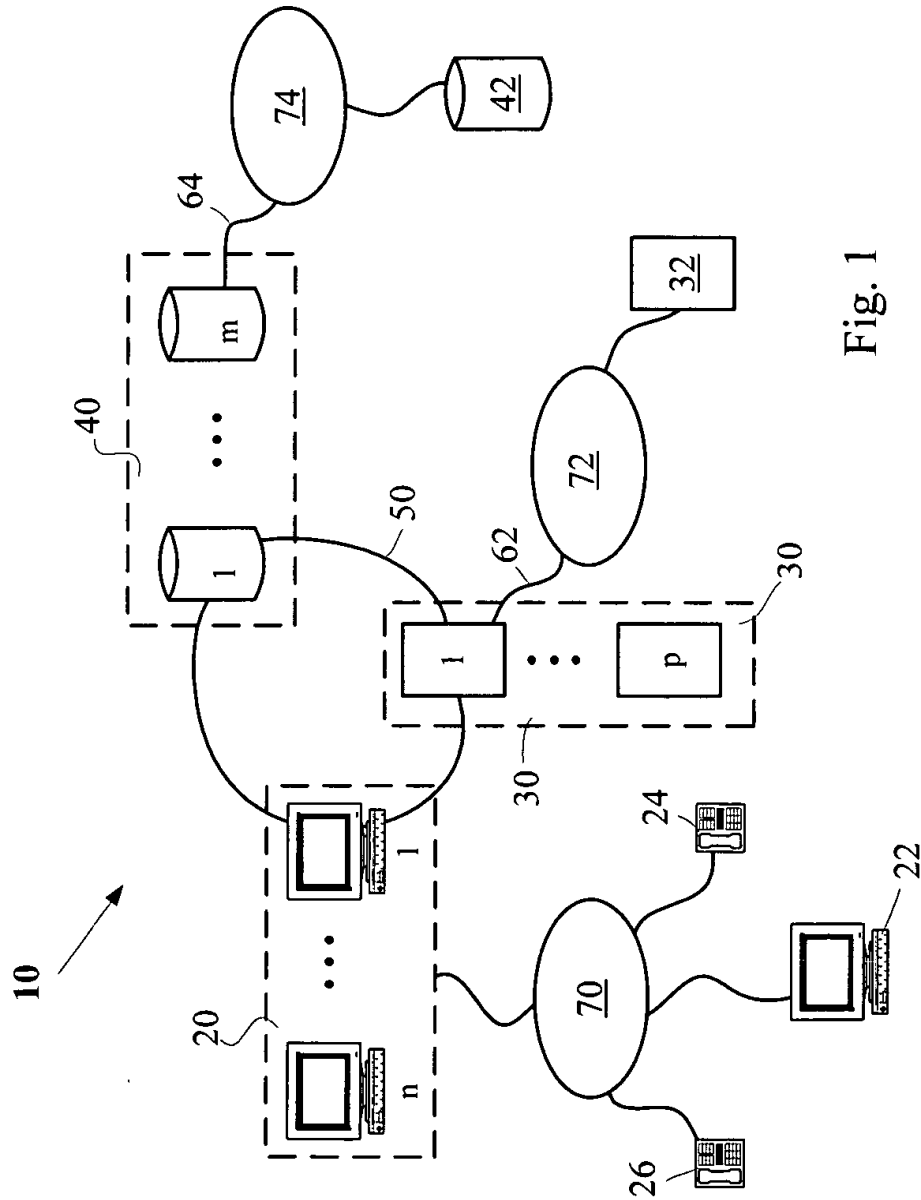
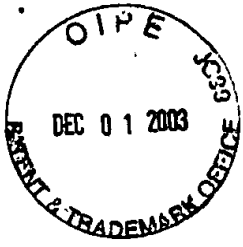


Fig. 1



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The screenshot displays a software window titled "Param Help". On the left is a tree view with a "Customer" icon and several sub-items: "Account Default", "Address Part", "Address Type", "Address Usage", and "Address Informa". On the right is a details pane. It contains a "Customer type" field (labeled 156), a "Customer subtype" field (labeled 158), and an "Account Default" section with two sub-fields: "Current chrgs smy" and "Refund required". Below these is a large text area (labeled 154) with a vertical scrollbar. The window has standard Windows-style title bar buttons (minimize, maximize, close) in the top-left corner.

Fig. 5